

REMARKS

Claims 6, and 8 to 29 are pending in this application. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment herein places this application in condition for allowance. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

The Rejections under Prior Art

Claims 6 and 8-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Palmer (GB 2326505) in view of Rasmussen et al. (US Pub. No. 2004/0053699) and Hajder et al. (US Pub. No. 2005/0277477). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As recognized in the Office Action, Palmer does not disclose the doorframe to be pivotally movable around a substantial vertical edge between an open position and a closed position, but instead around a horizontal edge. As recited in independent claim 1, the

... two display monitors (28a, 28b) are positioned one above the other at an obtuse angle relative to each other and are fixedly attached to said doorframe (15) and said doorframe (15) is supported on said gaming machine cabinet (10) by a substantially *vertical* hinge to open and close said doorframe together with the two display monitors (28a, 28b) affixed thereto relative to said gaming machine cabinet (10)

This is a significant feature of the claimed invention as it facilitates servicing by technician. Hajder et al. is cited for disclosing that a cabinet door may be changed to open around a vertical axis rather than a horizontal axis. However, Hadjer et al. is not valid as a prior art reference. The present application claims priority to the filing date of Australian application No AU 2003100844 (a copy of which is attached hereto), namely October 8, 2003. The Hadjer

et al. reference was published on December 15, 2005 and filed on June 9, 2004, after the filing of Applicant's Australian application. Hence, Hadjer et al. is not prior art to the present application. The rejection, therefore, is unsupported by the references and a prima facie case of obviousness is not established. Accordingly, claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are submitted to be patentable. Likewise, independent claims 26 and 27 (as amended) are also submitted to be allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The New Claim

New Claim 29 depends from claim 1 and is directed to the vertex of the angled planes defined by the display monitors, i.e., that the vertex is located behind the doorframe. Support for this recitation can be found at page 6, lines 1-3 of the specification and the embodiments of Figures 1, 2 and 5 of the drawings. What is meant by the abovementioned feature of the actual vertex of the angles meeting at a point located behind the doorframe is illustrated by the sketch appended hereto.

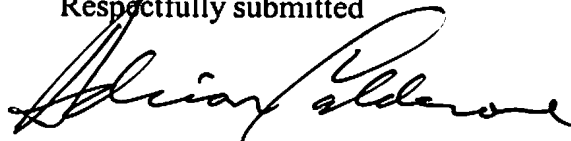
With regard to the advantages provided by such arrangement, one might argue that it improves the ease of a player viewing the monitors on a multiple display gaming machine, whilst simultaneously allowing an attendant or worker to perform maintenance duties with more ease. The ease of a player viewing the monitors is improved since the aforementioned arrangement with the vertex of the angles meeting at a point behind the doorframe comes along with a spacing between the two monitors so the human eyes can better keep apart the two monitors. On the other hand, the ease of a worker performing maintenance of the machine is improved, since the

arrangement with the vertex being behind the doorframe provides for a better accessibility to the monitor edges facing each other. In particular, the lower edge of the upper monitor and the upper edge of the lower monitor may be better grabbed or a tool can be brought into contact with said edges easier as can be seen from the sketch in the attachment. While some of the prior art documents relating to two-monitor gaming machines show a spacing between the two monitors, none of the documents shows the vertex of the angles between the monitors meeting at a point behind the doorframe since the doorframe panel section between the two monitors is not angled to both monitors as shown in the sketch of the attachment.

In view of the above entry of this amendment is respectfully requested as it places the claims in condition for allowance. Addition of the term vertical to claim 27 does not raise a new issue as this feature has already been considered. Claim 29 depends from claim 1, which is submitted to be patentable for the reasons stated above.

For at least the reasons stated above all of the pending claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance, the same being respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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